

DENTAL BOARD[650]

Adopted and Filed Emergency

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Dental Board hereby adopts amendments to Chapter 15, "Fees," Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments are included in a Notice of Intended Action published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on May 16, 2012, as **ARC 0128C**.

The amendments streamline the initial licensure process for dentist applicants applying for a license within three months of the next renewal due date. Applicants applying this close to a renewal cycle will be able to pay the application fee and the renewal fee at the same time. Their licenses will be issued for a period of 24 months plus the amount of time remaining until the next renewal due date. This change will eliminate the need for applicants to submit two separate applications and fees within one three-month period. For example, under existing rules a dentist graduating in May 2012 who submits an application for an Iowa dental license will pay a \$200 application fee. Dental licenses are valid for a 24-month period and are renewed in even-numbered years. This newly licensed dentist must renew the license by August 31, 2012, and pay the renewal fee of \$315. This requires the submittal of two applications (one for initial licensure and one for the renewal application due by August 31, 2012) and two checks (a \$200 licensure application fee and a \$315 fee for renewal) within a very short period. These amendments allow the applicant in this example to submit one application and pay one combined fee of \$515 (\$200 application fee plus the \$315 renewal fee due August 31, 2012). At the time the application for licensure is approved, the license would be issued and valid for a period of 27 months (24 months plus the 3 months remaining until the August 31, 2012, renewal). This change will impact applicants who are applying within three months of a biennial renewal due date.

In compliance with Iowa Code section 17A.4(3), the Board finds that notice and public participation are unnecessary because the amendments do not change requirements or increase fees. The amendments simplify the initial licensure process during a year when licenses must also be renewed. These amendments are in response to input from former applicants, current licensees, and representatives of private dental profession groups.

The Board also finds, pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.5(2)"b"(2), that the normal effective date of these amendments should be waived and these amendments should be made effective upon filing, as they confer a benefit on dentist applicants who will be seeking licensure this spring and summer. These amendments have been adopted and implemented on an emergency basis due to time-sensitive deadlines. Dentists graduate in May and will be applying for initial licensure shortly thereafter. Dental licenses must be renewed by August 31, 2012. These amendments will permit applicants to apply for a license and pay the renewal fee at one time, and the applicants will receive a longer initial license period. These emergency amendments will only apply to dentist applicants. Similar amendments that cover other dental professionals are included in the Notice of Intended Action published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on May 16, 2012, as **ARC 0128C**.

The Dental Board adopted these amendments on May 18, 2012.

After analysis and review of this rule making, it was determined that these amendments could have a positive impact on jobs. This rule making helps new graduates obtain their initial dental licenses and renew at the same time during a renewal year, which eliminates the need for double applications and separate payments in a short period of time. New licensees will receive initial licenses that are valid for 24 months plus the amount of time remaining until the renewal due date (August 31, 2012). The new licensees would be authorized to start employment upon issuance of the license, and they will not need to submit a separate renewal application for 2012.

These amendments became effective on May 21, 2012.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 153.33.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 650—15.1(153), introductory paragraph, as follows:

650—15.1(153) License application Application fees. All fees are nonrefundable.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 15.1(1) as follows:

15.1(1) Dental licensure on the basis of examination. The fees for a dental license issued on the basis of examination include an application fee, a fee for evaluation of a fingerprint packet and criminal background check and, if the applicant is applying within three months or less of a biennial renewal due date, the renewal fee.

a. Application fee. The application fee for a license to practice dentistry is \$200.

b. Initial licensure period and renewal period. If an applicant applies within three months or less of a biennial renewal due date, the applicant shall pay the renewal fee along with the licensure application fee. A license shall not be issued for a period less than three months or longer than two years and three months. Thereafter, a licensee shall pay the renewal fee as specified in 650—15.2(153).

c. Fingerprint packet and criminal history check. The fee for evaluation of a fingerprint packet and criminal background check is as specified in subrule 15.1(14).

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 15.1(5) as follows:

15.1(5) Dental licensure on the basis of credentials. The fees for a dental license issued on the basis of credentials include an application fee, an initial licensure fee, and a fee for evaluation of a fingerprint packet and criminal background check.

a. Application fee. The application fee for a license to practice dentistry issued on the basis of credentials is \$550.

b. Initial licensure period and renewal period. If an applicant applies within three months or less of a biennial renewal due date, the applicant shall pay the renewal fee along with the licensure application fee. A license shall not be issued for a period less than three months or longer than two years and three months. Thereafter, a licensee shall pay the renewal fee as specified in 650—15.2(153).

c. Fingerprint packet and criminal history check. The fee for evaluation of a fingerprint packet and criminal background check is as specified in subrule 15.1(14).

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